



Los Angeles County AUDIT COMMITTEE

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May 8, 2007

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

COMMISSION REVIEW PROCESS--SUNSET REVIEW FOR THE POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE (ALL DISTRICTS AFFECTED) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve extension of the sunset review date for the Policy Roundtable for Child Care to June 30, 2011.

PURPOSE OF RECOMMENDED ACTION/JUSTIFICATION:

The sunset review date of the Policy Roundtable for Child Care was inadvertently allowed to expire on June 30, 2006. The Board has continued to appoint and reappoint members to the Policy Roundtable for Child Care since such date. Therefore, it is necessary for the Board to extend the sunset review date as requested by the Audit Committee to June 30, 2011.

On December 1, 1994, the Audit Committee submitted its initial report in response to your Board's instruction to review the effectiveness of County commissions, committees and task forces defined under Chapters I and IV of the Los Angeles County Committee Book. Consistent with your Board's instructions, the Audit Committee is submitting the results of the evaluation of the Policy Roundtable for Child Care (PRCC) by the Auditor-Controller, and the recommendations from the Audit Committee for further action by your Board.

During this review period, the PRCC accomplished the following: recommended that the Board of Supervisors (Board) oppose the California Department of Education's proposal to change how rates for subsidized child care are determined, since it would result in less subsidized child care funding for low income communities; advocated the adoption of Assembly Bill (AB) 1285 authorizing the County to expand its Early Educators Program, in order that more licensed child care providers receive stipends, training, and other support; worked with the First 5 Los Angeles Commission to develop and implement quality rating instruments to rate the Los Angeles Universal Preschool classrooms; and created a

plan to evaluate the necessity for, and cost of, expanding subsidized child care in the County for low income families.

FISCAL/FINANCING IMPACTS:

None.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

The PRCC was established by the Board on March 21, 2000, pursuant to Chapter 3.75 of the Los Angeles County Code. The sunset review date for the Commission was June 30, 2006.

The PRCC serves as the official County body on all matters relating to child care and works in collaboration with the Child Care Planning Committee and the Children's Planning Council. The PRCC submits recommendations to the Board to build and strengthen the child care system and infrastructure in the County.

The PRCC consists of 22 members appointed by the Board and includes representatives from specified County departments, school districts, and other child care agencies, as well as outside experts on child care issues. The PRCC incurred approximately \$234,136 expenses for staff support, services and supplies, parking permits, and office space rent. The Chief Administrative Office's Office of Child care receives annual grants from the California Department of Education to pay for PRCC's expenses.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

Extending the sunset review date will allow this body to address the following: continue to develop quality rating instruments for child care, development programs and expand its research to include facilities serving infants to toddlers; undertake the issue concerning CalWorks families use of license-exempted child care services instead of State funded centers, and increase awareness and access to subsidized child care to foster youth that become parents while in foster care system; and to provide subsidized child care to those children before the parent is no longer eligible to be in the foster care system.

Respectfully submitted,



LOUISA OLLAGUE

Chairperson, Audit Committee

c: Chief Administrative Officer
Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors
Commission Services
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Chair, Policy Roundtable for Child Care



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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J. TYLER McCaULEY
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

AGENDA ITEM IV d

January 24, 2007

FEB 15 2007

TO: Audit Committee

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley *tn*
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **SUNSET REVIEW FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY POLICY
ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE**

RECOMMENDATION

The Audit Committee recommend to the Board of Supervisors to extend the Los Angeles County Policy Roundtable for Child Care's sunset review date to June 30, 2011.

BACKGROUND

The Policy Roundtable for Child Care (PRCC or Roundtable) was established by the Board of Supervisors (Board) on March 21, 2000, pursuant to Chapter 3.75 of the Los Angeles County Code.

The Roundtable serves as the official County body on all matters relating to child care. The PRCC works in collaboration with the Child Care Planning Committee and the Children's Planning Council. The PRCC submits recommendations to the Board to build and strengthen the child care system and infrastructure in the County.

The PRCC has 22 members appointed by the Board. Members include representatives from specified County departments, school districts, and other child care agencies, as well as outside experts in child care issues. Membership requirements are detailed in Los Angeles County Code Chapter 3.75.

The Commission is required to meet on a monthly basis. From April 1, 2001 through March 31, 2006 the Commission met 55 times, with an average attendance of 12.7 (58%) members. Commission members do not receive compensation. During the

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

evaluation period, the Commission incurred approximately \$234,136 in expenses. The Commission's expenses include staff support, services and supplies, parking permits, and office space rent. The Chief Administrative Office's (CAO) Office of Child Care receives annual grants from the California Department of Education (CDE) to pay for PRCC's expenses.

JUSTIFICATION

The PRCC was intended to serve as the official County body on all matters relating to child care. During this evaluation period, the Commission advised the Board on various issues related to child care and development services. The following are examples of the PRCC's accomplishments:

- Recommended that the Board oppose the CDE's proposal to change how rates for subsidized child care are determined. The PRCC believed that implementing the proposal would result in less subsidized child care funding for low income communities.
- Recommended that the Board advocate the adoption of Assembly Bill (AB) 1285. AB 1285 authorizes the County to expand its Early Educators Program, so that more licensed child care providers receive stipends, training, and other support.
- Worked with the First 5 Los Angeles Commission to develop and implement quality rating instruments to rate the Los Angeles Universal Preschool classrooms.
- Created a plan to evaluate the necessity for, and cost of, expanding subsidized child care in the County for low income families.

The PRCC's goals for the next evaluation period are to:

- Continue to develop quality rating instruments for child care and development programs. The PRCC will expand its research to include facilities serving infants to toddlers.
- Examine why some CalWorks families use license-exempted child care services instead of State funded centers.
- Work to increase awareness and access to subsidized child care to foster youth that become parents while in the foster care system. The PRCC's objective is to provide

subsidized child care to those children before the parent is no longer eligible to be in the foster care system.

Please call me if you have any questions.

JTM:MMO:JLS:MR

Attachments

- c: Kathleen Malaske-Samu, Director, Office of Child Care, Chief Administrative Office
- Majid Matt Seyedi-Rezvani, Chair, Policy Roundtable for Child Care
- Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer
- Robin A. Guerrero, Chief, Board Operations
- Jim Corbett, Manager, Commission Services

SUNSET REVIEW
LOS ANGELES COUNTY POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE
REVIEW COMMENTS

Mission. (Does the mission statement agree with the Board of Supervisor's purpose and expectations?)

Stated mission is as set forth in the ordinance creating the Roundtable.

CONCUR

Section 1. Relevance. (Is the mission still relevant and in agreement with the Board of Supervisor's purpose and expectations?)

The PRCC serves as the official County body on all matters relating to child care. The PRCC works in collaboration with the Child Care Planning Committee and the Children's Planning Council, and submits recommendations to the Board to build and strengthen the child care system and infrastructure in the County.

RELEVANT

Section 2. Meetings and Attendance. (Are required meetings held and is attendance satisfactory?)

The PRCC is required to meet on a monthly basis. From April 1, 2001 through March 31, 2006, the PRCC met 55 times, with an average attendance of 12.7 (58%) members. **SATISFACTORY**

Sections 3 and 4. Accomplishments and Results. (Are listed accomplishments and results significant?)

During this evaluation period, the PRCC advised the Board on various issues related to child care and development services. The following are examples of the PRCC's accomplishments:

- Recommended that the Board oppose the CDE's proposal to revise the mechanisms that determine the rates for subsidized child care. The PRCC believed that implementing the proposal would result in less subsidized child care funding for low income communities.
- Recommended that the Board advocate the adoption of AB 1285. AB 1285 authorizes the County to expand its Early Educators Program so that more licensed child care providers receive stipends, training, and other support to help them continue their education. Under AB 1285, licensed child care providers, who care for a majority of children receiving child care subsidies, can now qualify for the program.

- Worked with the First 5 Los Angeles Commission to develop and implement quality rating instruments to rate the Los Angeles Universal Preschool classrooms.
- Created a plan to evaluate the necessity for, and cost of, expanding subsidized child care in the County for low income families that need child care, but can not afford it. **SIGNIFICANT**

Section 5. Objectives. (Are the objectives compatible with the mission and goals and relevant within the current County environment?)

The PRCC's goals for the next evaluation period are to:

- Continue to develop quality rating instruments to determine and measure a facility's performance, in order to monitor the quality of child care and development programs. The PRCC will expand its research to include facilities serving infants to toddlers.
- Examine why some CalWorks families use license-exempted child care services instead of State funded centers.
- Work to increase awareness and access to subsidized child care to foster youth that become parents while in the foster care system. The PRCC's objective is to provide subsidized child care to those children before the parent is no longer eligible to be in the foster care system. **RELEVANT**

Section 6. Resources. (Are the resources utilized by the entity in support of the entity's activities warranted in terms of the accomplishments and results?)

PRCC members do not receive compensation. During the evaluation period, the PRCC incurred approximately \$234,136 in expenses for staff support, services and supplies, parking permits, and office space rent. The CAO's Office of Child Care receives annual grants from the CDE to pay for PRCC's expenses. **WARRANTED**

Section 7. Recommendation.

EXTEND THE SUNSET REVIEW DATE FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE TO JUNE 30, 2011.

